



U.S. Department of
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WHAT'S NEW

Announcements

Office of Safety Programs is pleased to announce that it has two new staff members:

Davey Warren will be leading the speed management activities. Davey comes to us from the Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center, where he spent the past 28 years involved in research to improve traffic operations and safety. Most recently he headed FHWA's speed management research program which is focused on improving methods for establishing speed limits, including variable speed limits, and engineering measures such as traffic calming for controlling speeds. He has a BS degree in Civil Engineering from North Carolina State University and an MS degree in Transportation from the University of Maryland. He is a graduate of the FHWA Highway Engineering Training Program. Davey's phone number is 202-366-4668.

Leslie Wright will be coordinating the LTAP/TTAP safety outreach activities. Leslie has worked with many offices in FHWA including the National Highway Institute (NHI), Office of International Programs, Office of Planning, Office of Policy, and the Training and Development Group. While in the Office of International Programs, she was the Africa T2 Program Manager where she established and worked with T2 centers throughout Southern Africa, and collaborated and coordinated with various other Global T2 and LTAP/TTAP Centers. Leslie worked with a Metropolitan Planning Organization prior to her employment with FHWA. She has a BS degree in Electrical Engineering, an MS degree in Transportation Planning, and is currently pursuing a 2nd MS degree in Public Policy. Leslie's phone number is 202-366-2176.

Office of Safety Design is pleased to announce that it has a new staff member:

Clayton Chen will work on geometric design, intersection safety, and road safety audits. Clayton is a licensed professional engineer and a certified professional traffic operations engineer with more than 18 years of experience. He has worked across the transportation spectrum including: planning, traffic engineering, design, operations, and ITS. Specifically, Clayton has been involved in projects involving: traffic impact analyses, traffic calming, signing, pavement marking, lighting design, signal optimization, signal network coordination, transit priority treatment, network modeling, incident management, and value engineering. Clayton worked with Wilbur Smith Associates prior to his employment with FHWA. He has a Ph.D. degree in Civil/Transportation Engineering. Clayton's phone number is 202-366-4656.

2003 National Roadway Safety Awards The Federal Highway Administration and the Roadway Safety Foundation are co-sponsoring the 2003 National Roadway Safety Awards competition. The Awards program provides national recognition for exemplary roadway safety efforts and publicizes "award winning" best practices throughout the country. Awards will be given for infrastructure and operational improvements and other programs that address state and/or community safety needs. Public and private sector, state, local and national organizations are eligible to apply. The Awards brochure provides detailed information and an application form. The deadline for applications is June 30, 2003. For more information, contact Kathy Hoffman at (202) 366-9265 or kathy.hoffman@fhwa.dot.gov.

Announcement for Older Driver Demonstration Projects

The FHWA Office of Safety Programs plans to award 2 to 4 projects this year related to the recommendations in the FHWA *Highway Design Handbook for Older Drivers and Pedestrians*. The objective of these projects is to demonstrate and evaluate the effectiveness of the FHWA older road user guidelines in providing improved



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safety, comfort, ease of use, and operations, for older road users and all road users. This cooperative agreement program requires each recipient to conduct a carefully planned demonstration of applying the selected guidelines in the Highway Design Handbook for Older Drivers and Pedestrians. The recipient will identify corridors or specific road segments under their jurisdiction that can benefit from application of the Handbook guidelines, implement appropriate guidelines, and identify the costs and benefits of implementation. Benefits should include measures related to safety, road user comfort, and operations.

A total of \$350,000 in Federal funds is available, so individual cooperative agreements are expected to range between \$100,000 and \$150,000 of Federal Funds. For these cooperative agreements, Applicants must commit to a 20 percent match of the Federal funds, which can be provided through direct financial contribution or "in-kind" services. We estimate that proposals will be due around 5 June 2003.

More information can be found at

<http://www.eps.gov/spg/DOT/FHWA/OAM/DTFH61%2D03%2DRA%2D00103/listing.html>

Please share this information with your state and local contacts, as well as anyone else who might be interested.

More Rational Speed Limit Demonstration Projects to be Awarded in 2003

In early May, the U.S. Department of Transportation expects to issue a request for applications from State and local agencies to participate in the third and final wave of demonstration projects on setting and enforcing rational speed limits to be awarded in 2003. The objective of these demonstration projects is to determine the extent to which rationally established, well-publicized, and strictly enforced speed limits lead to higher compliance and improved safety. Unlike previous years, Interstates and other freeways may be included in the demonstration projects to be awarded in 2003.

Rational speed limits promote public safety by providing drivers with information that will help them choose a reasonable and prudent speed that is appropriate for the existing conditions. Rational speed limits are determined through a formal process that considers the speed of free-flowing traffic, roadway geometry, design characteristics and land use. This procedure results in a speed limit that is reasonable to a vast majority of drivers and falls within the speed range of minimum risk. Strict enforcement of rational speed limits focused on flagrant speed limit violators is a key component. Public education will help citizens understand how speed limits were determined and why they will be strictly enforced. Local prosecutors and judges will be informed and their support will be engaged.

In 2001, cooperative agreements were awarded to the Mississippi Department of Transportation and Connecticut Department of Public Safety. In 2002, agreements were awarded to the South Central Planning and Development Commission in Louisiana and Massachusetts Governor's Highway Safety Bureau. For 2003, the US DOT Speed Management Team expects to fund two to four more demonstration and evaluation projects ranging between \$150,000 - \$300,000 each. This request for application (RFA) will only be released and available electronically on FedBizOpps at:

<<http://www.eps.gov/spg/DOT/FHWA/OAM/DTFH61%2D03%2DRA%2D00104/listing.html>>

GUIDANCE FOR USING RED-LIGHT CAMERAS

The Federal Highway Administration and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has jointly issued guidance to assist state and local agency managers, transportation engineers, and law enforcement officials in identifying and properly addressing safety problems resulting from red-light running.

<http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/rlcguide/index.htm>



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Revised Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Course

Piloted in Troy, New York, on March 18 – 20, this course is intended to help participants gain an understanding of the HSIP process, safety engineering and human factors issues related to traffic and road safety, and the latest methods for identifying collision causes and selecting cost-effective safety improvements. Approximately 25 persons attended this pilot, including FHWA safety specialists and representatives from state and local governments and metropolitan planning organizations. As a result of the feedback received from the participants, revisions to this course will be made. Contact Dean Larsen (dean.larsen@fhwa.dot.gov) and Ken Epstein (kenneth.epstein@fhwa.dot.gov).

FHWA Safety R&D Study: Characteristics of Emerging Road and Trail Users and Their Safety

Persons using in-line skates, scooters, strollers, electric bicycles, adult tricycles, recumbents, tandems, trailers, golf carts, and assisting technologies such as electric scooters and motorized wheelchairs on our nation's pedestrian travel ways and trails have characteristics that were not considered in the original design but could affect the safety performance of these facilities. Planners and engineers have limited knowledge of the effect of these users' operational and design characteristics. In response to this gap in knowledge, FHWA is conducting a study that will attempt to:

- Identify characteristics of the users of pedestrian facilities that may affect facility design, operation, and safety;
- Investigate the safety of these users in the environments in which they operate; and
- Compile this information for individuals responsible for the planning, design, operation, and maintenance of pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

For more information, contact Ann Do at ann.do@fhwa.dot.gov, 202-493-3319

Human Factors for Transportation Engineers Workshop uses a range of interactive exercises to describe the skills and capabilities drivers need to use our roadways, discusses the relationship between specific highway standards and human needs, and includes "micro" case studies to allow participants to apply what they have learned. Workshops are now scheduled for:

May 6 – Helena, MT

May 8 – Helena, MT

Saving Lives – A Vital Goal

Vision: Improving Transportation for a Strong America.

Goal: To continually improve highway safety by reducing the number of highway fatalities and injuries including large trucks. Ensuring safe travel on highways is a guiding principle throughout the FHWA.

Focus: High-risk areas through technical assistance, research, training, data analysis, and public information as well as through compliance and education. The FHWA is working with safety partners to heighten safety awareness within the highway community, business, industry, and the Public.

Top Priorities: Roadway Departure, Intersections, and Pedestrians



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EVENTS AND MEETINGS		
Dates	Location	Event
2003		
May 11 – 17	Nationwide	National Transportation Week
May 19 – 26	Nationwide	<i>Buckle Up America!</i> Week Http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov
May 19 – June 1	Nationwide	<i>Click It or Ticket</i> Mobilization Http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov
June 14 – 17	Louisville, KY	International Assoc. of Chiefs of Police Highway Safety Meeting
June 22 – 25	Reno, NV	International Conference on Low Volume Roads Http://www.trb.org/
July 13 – 17	Denver, CO	International Traffic Records Forum http://www.nsc.org/trafficrecordsforum/
July 27 – 31	Honolulu, HI	National LTAP Meeting Http://www.ltap.org/
August 24 – 27	Seattle, WA	ITE Annual Meeting & Exhibit Http://www.ite.org/
August 24 – 27	New Orleans, LA	Governors Highway Safety Association www.statehighwaysafety.org
August 24 – 27	San Diego, CA	American Public Works Association (APWA) Http://www.apwa.net/
August 30 – September 5	Nationwide	National <i>Stop on Red</i> Week Http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov
September 5 – 12	Chicago, IL	National Safety Council Annual Congress & Expo Http://www.nsc.org/
September 5 – 9	Minneapolis, MN	2003 AASHTO Annual Meeting www.aashto.org
October 10	Nationwide	<i>Put the Brakes on Fatalities</i> Day Www.brakesonfatalities.org
October 21 – 25	Philadelphia, PA	International Assoc. of Chiefs of Police Annual Conference http://www.theiacp.org
November 2 – 5	San Antonio, TX	National Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Safety Conference
November 12 – 15	Nashville, TN	American Society of Civil Engineers Conference www.asce.org
November 18 – December 1	Nationwide	<i>Click It or Ticket</i> Mobilization Http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov

For a complete listing of FHWA Safety Programs and Resources

Visit our website at <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov>